

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/810,613

Examiner

Michael t Tran

Applicant(s)

MIWA ET AL.

Art Unit

2818

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to communication filed March 29, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 29 March 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 08/860,793.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 032904
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. In response to the Communication dated March 29, 2004, claims 1-17 are active in this application.

Foreign Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a) (d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement filed March 29, 2004 has been considered.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-17 are allowable over the prior art of record.

5. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art of records does not show (in addition to other elements in the claim) the following:

- ❖ Wherein in an operation in response to said read command, said control circuit controls, based on operation steps corresponding to said read command, reading data from ones of said nonvolatile memory cells, stores read data to said data buffer, and outputting said read data stored in said data buffer via said other

terminal except said command terminal in response to said clock signal, and wherein in an operation in response to said program command received from said command terminal, said control circuit controls, based on operation steps corresponding to said program command, receiving data via said other terminal except said command terminal in response to clock signal, stores received data to said data buffer and writing said received data to ones of said nonvolatile memory cells.

- ❖ Wherein in an operation in response to said read command received from said command terminal, said control circuit controls, based on operation steps corresponding to said read command, reading data from ones of nonvolatile memory cells, transferring read data to said first volatile memory, and serially outputting said read data from said first volatile memory via said data terminal in response to said clock signal, and wherein in an operation in response to said program command received from said command terminal, said control circuit controls, based on operation steps, corresponding to said program command, serially receiving of data via said data terminal in response to said clock signal, transferring received data to said first volatile memory, and writing said received data stored in said first volatile memory to ones of said nonvolatile memory cells.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael T. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-1795.

8. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1650.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MT Tran', is positioned above the printed name.

Michael T. Tran

September 28, 2004